

FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

ALLIANCE NOTES.

—Another such a Cleveland victory as that of Alabama will let the Cleveland gold-bugs out of the race. Hurrah for Alabama!

—The right to permanent employment, must henceforth be an integral part of every labor platform.—Pittsburg Kansan.

—The people have no fears of the force bill, because the people's party declared against all federal intervention in elections.

—A man who would sell his vote, would sell his daughter into prostitution, and the man who will buy a vote, would buy the girl.—Cincinnati Herald.

—The indications are that the election returns this fall will show the loss of the Cleveland party to be fully as great in the south as the loss of the republican party in the north.

—Carnegie is an anarchist. He proposes to kill people who interfere with his "right" to rob labor. How the Lord must love a man with a great soul like Andy's.—Zanesville (O.) Labor Journal.

—Trusts are safeguards against competition. Republicans consider them private affairs, excepting when they are formed by the laborers. Then they are a menace to freedom.—Pittsburg Kansan.

—The trouble with the political situation in Texas to-day is, no one knows exactly how the situation is situated.—Waco News. Just so, and still the weather bureau predicts cyclones and tidal waves.—Southern Mercury.

—The reciprocity which would give to Snowden and Streator the same punishment which they inflicted on the nineteen-year-old boy, I am, is the kind

THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD.

A Careful Walk Therein Will Cause Alliance to Follow Their Principles Into the People's Party.

To the Members of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union:

For years we have been studying political economy, "the science of government," from a strictly non-partisan standpoint, the only correct method of arriving at the truth in politics. With unparalleled unanimity and enthusiasm, we have united on a series of demands which have been adopted, affirmed and reaffirmed by our supreme council, our state, county and subordinate alliances. Last February at St. Louis they were endorsed by twenty-one other great labor organizations. These demands are the result of many years' patient study and discussion of the labor problem. We believe they are just and essential. The time has now arrived to test whether we are going to be practical or not. The only way to secure the enactment of these demands into law is through political action—legislation. We have passed through the stages of discussion, resolutions and demanding. These are all preliminary and necessary to the final act of voting. Unless followed up by our ballots, all that we have done will have been in vain. The difficulty that now confronts us as an organization is, that whilst we are a unit on our demands, we are not, as to methods of securing them. We all must agree on the common sense proposition that the only way of securing them is to vote for them. Unfortunately, our partisanship, in some cases, has proven stronger than our allegiance to our principles.

When we first made our political demands, we, to that extent, became a political organization. In doing so, we did not become a political party,

age better than our principles. To be weak or vacillating at this critical time, will insure the loss of the earnest, aggressive membership, who are honestly advocating our principles as of paramount importance to that of any political party. No true alliance can hesitate which course to pursue. Admitting a loss, which we must, which method will insure us the greatest gain? Unquestionably the honest, manly, consistent course of voting as we talk, resolve, demand and pledge. Experience in the state elections, where we have voted for our principles, has demonstrated that our gains have more than balanced our losses in numbers, and strengthened us immensely in prestige and influence.

A few may be led away with the idea that because a political party has adopted our demands our efforts should now be concentrated solely for the party. This would be a grave mistake. We must perpetuate and strengthen our organization as a bulwark for our principles, present and prospective. A tower of strength to aid the party adopting our demands and a terror to the political party fighting them. In other words, we must remain independent of and superior to political parties. It is not enough that a political party has adopted our demands. Political parties are proverbially frail. We must follow them up to see that they perform. New issues, vital to our interests, will arise continually. Without organization we would again be at the mercy of other organized classes, and would again have to go through the laborious work of organization to rescue ourselves.

Our only hope and safety is in perpetuating and perfecting our organization, pressing forward consistently and persistently until victory is assured.

Fraternally, H. L. LOUCKS,
Prest N. F. A. & I. U.

THE ANTI-OPTION BILL.

The Farmers Will Show at the Polls What They Think of Its Disgraceful Defeat in Congress.

[Special Correspondence.]

The leading article in the Chicago Herald of July 16, headed in heavy type "Millions in the Scale," has two columns of defense of produce and meat, gambling as conducted by boards of trade. This paper seems much alarmed and shows vividly the distress given to speculative gamblers of Chicago over the prospective passage of the Hatch-Washburn anti-option bill. It says "various schemes have been proposed to 'best the law' in the event of the passage of the bill." After mentioning various phases that are proposed it says: "Finally Henry Clews came to the rescue with a brilliant and merchant like suggestion that operatives go right along as usual, but that they call grain 'hay.' If this Mr. Henry Clews is the New York banker and expert gold manipulator, so much quoted as authority on finance, it is no wonder that silver dollars are worth but 67 in gold standard and it is only a question of time when they will sell to owners of gold for 7 cents. In some manner a gambling house can be run openly as a tennis court, or a saloon be called a church festival. If our western people were as 'swartly cute' and had as little honor as some of these money changers and 'boards of trade' operators of New York and Chicago we would ship them hay and draw on them for wheat. But we don't do that—we ship wheat and after deducting one bushel out of every four for freight they pay us on a basis of a sixty-seven cent dollar and then 'speculate' a value of one dollar sixty-seven cents in to the grain before it gets on to the table of the 'protected' mechanic and consumer. Oh! how wicked these granger law makers are becoming, when they actually pass laws that will compel these food gamblers to withdraw their capital from such honorable (!) business! There are 311 of these firms 'operating' on Chicago's board of trade. There are wholesale men who have traveling men on the road that occasionally sit down to a little game of draw poker for a dollar ante and the ceiling for a limit, which wholesale men have been known to complain at the result, for they sometimes have to stand the 'skrinkage' between such gaming table and the ceiling.

How much more should the people of this country feel interested in a game having ten millions in the pot at stake each play on food products in the hands of these 'board of trade' gamblers? Of course this game of chance on food is so respectable (!), has such a fine club house, employs about five thousand clerks and 'hangers on' all of which makes it quite brutal for the 'grangers' to pass a law that is likely to hamper its run of business.

Mr. Hankins, the gentleman who lately retired with a million of dollars from running a notorious gambling house on Clark street in Chicago, gathered his gains, a few cents or dollars at a time, from the laboring men and poor clerks. The Herald attacked him in its columns time and again, but public opinion in the city, backed by its corrupt enforcers of law, was so low and debased that despite the public press Mr. Hankins continued his business (?) and he is now an elegant gentleman of leisure. The Herald can see that Hankins' den was wrong and the 'board of trade' can see that the so-called 'bucket shops' are wrong, but nobody but a 'granger' can discover dishonesty and burning wrongs enacted in 'options' on food of the masses by gentlemen on 'boards of trade.'

We have seen the 'grangers' termed 'hogs' by the State Journal, have heard them called fools and cattle and chronicles and other manner of abusive terms, but that does not make them so, any more than would Mr. Henry Clews calling wheat 'hay' make an evasion of law possible, by these pirates on the high seas of trade, these despoilers of honest business and labor. The Herald writer gives a summary of the principal financial interests represented on the Chicago board of trade, which he says will be seriously disturbed by an anti-option law—and he figures it thus:

Capital invested in commercial business:
Speculative.....\$10,000,000
Receiving.....10,000,000
Elevator companies.....10,000,000
Packing.....4,000,000
Total.....\$34,000,000

Note this acknowledgment that the capitalized packing house interests are speculative agencies. He admits that the ten millions invested in purely speculative work, in case of an anti-option law passing, would have to sell its plant (?) and put its money in some other enterprise.

What a great calamity that would be! The country grain dealer and the farmer-speculators who have tried their hands on board of trade schemes will all miss the 'option feature' of the board of trade, but their families will not miss it so badly. The 'granger' legislature of 1890 passed the Australian ballot law, doing more for our state and good government than all the legislatures Nebraska ever had before; and now the 'grangers' are trying their influence in the national halls of congress, and even the polished food gambler is being looked after.

The world moves and the devil is likely to lose some of his 'soft snaps.' 'The eye cannot see to the hand, I have no need of thee,' but the hand can say to the eye of gambling, whether in low dives at keno and draw-poker rooms or in gilded halls of 'boards of trade,' 'we have no need of thee and your baleful light must cease shining in good (?) as well as bad society upon our producing and consuming world.'

Will our business interests join with their customers and friends, the farmers, to weed out corporation worshipers, class favors and gambling from our growing fields of universal equality of opportunity? I think they will.

Mr. Partridge has distinguished himself in another field. He has proved himself to be as shrewd a letter writer as grain dealer. He handles sarcasm as effectively as options. His open communication to Messrs. Hatch, Wash-

burn et al., thanking them for their efforts in his behalf, is unrivaled in its line. But it's easy to be merry when one has cleared \$700,000 on a single deal.—Chicago Herald, July 23.

The gentleman referred to in the lines quoted above and the open letter he wrote has a direct bearing on the question of grain gambling or 'options.' To a better understanding by our readers it will be proper to state a few facts regarding the gentleman and make some quotations from his letter referred to that we may weigh the elements of the cities that are fighting the anti-option law. He says, 'My business training has been that of a merchant.' Continuing in a personal strain he explains how as buyer of goods and always seeking the cheapest market he developed the habit of bearing down values, never being satisfied with a trade when made but holding the impression that a better bargain might have been secured. This, he explains, decided his line of action when leaving the calling of 'merchant' to enter that of 'option dealer,' placing him on the 'bear' side of the market or gambling table. Mr. Partridge had what could be termed a 'plunder' store on State street known as the 'Boston store' and his stock was replenished from bankrupt and job lots from everywhere and anywhere.

In the category of trade he filled the same position in merchandising as does the hyena in the economy of nature by skulking the plains to gather dead bodies wherever misfortune or death overtakes them. The position of this gentleman and the hyena are both legitimate as long as the business honor of man is so low as to permit conditions of trade to breed bankruptcy and gambling, and the ignorance of the brute so low as to make his self-preservation impossible.

In unfolding his line of reasoning for taking the depressing side of the market he says: 'Financial and commercial misfortunes and accidents are perpetually occurring to shake confidence and disturb values, and besides the cost of carrying the property to be taken into consideration.' This line of reasoning is true to the existing condition of facts. To change these existing conditions is just what the people's party is trying to do. A 'financial misfortune' can be one where an enterprising, energetic business man borrows half of his capital, and that half being timid (?) capital, which timidity consists in fearing it may not get in interest all the man makes in its use, may be called in at a time when bankruptcy must follow. National banking and interest bearing money, instead of a profit or loss sharing medium of exchange or measure of values are well calculated to breed the 'financial misfortunes' Mr. P. profited with so often in his buying. So far in his letter is exhibited only the 'shrewd' man of hygienic tendencies, and all his positions so far, are from his standpoint, well taken. But not so for the balance of his letter. He having developed into 'conspicuous success' as a grain speculator, from the natural aptitude of his mind and merchant (?) training, and being desirous of conditions continuing that would afford further scope for developing genius in the speculative line explains his opposition to the anti-option law and the 'sarcasm' to Hatch, Washburn et al.

He terms the attempt at passing this law as 'illegitimate and unwarrantable interference with trade methods.'

It is not likely that the gentleman would sign an open letter claiming that laws against 'speculating' in money with cards or playing of keno and like games of chance were 'illegitimate and unwarrantable interference with' methods of gaining money; but to the man who has to buy bread and meat from his day labor, the price of which food is fixed by 'speculative methods,' the gambler in grain and the gambler in money are standing upon the same moral and business level and equally unfit for citizenship. The \$700,000 won by Mr. P. was lost by some one or more companions in the game, and while few if any speculators know or noticed anything about a contemplated anti-option bill, he deliberately and falsely at this late date attributes his success in his speculative game to this bill now being considered before congress. He is merry and cute and 'shrewd,' but his laugh has the ring of the process and his 'inning' will merit and receive an outing, to all of which he and his class are welcome.

A. J. GUSTIN.

ALABAMA ELECTION.

The Democrats Succeeded if at All Only By Voting the Negroes—The White Vote For the People's Party.

The returns are not all in yet. 'The usual democratic majority of Alabama is 60,000. Ever since Monday the patrons of both old parties have been trying desperately hard to prove that Jones, the bourbon democratic candidate for governor, had gained a big victory. The dispatches this morning show that of the fifty-five counties heard from Kolb, the alliance candidate, had carried twenty-eight and Jones, democratic, twenty-seven. There are eleven counties to hear from, which it is conceded will be largely for Kolb.

The dispatches admit that the democrats had resorted to desperate measures to save themselves. Ballot boxes have been stolen and other overt acts committed. The most shameful and shameless thing of all is that the negroes in the black belt voted very largely for the democratic ticket, notwithstanding that they have always loudly protested that the southern democrats are their bitterest enemies.

It is conceded that a very large majority of the white voters in the state voted for the alliance ticket. That shows where the best element of the south are. Every indication now is that the usual big democratic majority of Alabama will be nearly wiped out. Had there been a fair deal, and the alliance people allowed a man on the returning board of each precinct, there is no doubt but what the alliance ticket would have been declared elected.—Cincinnati Herald.

—A vote cast for anything except an honest conviction is a vote thrown away.

"MIRABILE DICTUM."

The Force Bill Issue is Dead—Alabama Bourbons Solicit and Doubly Count Negro Votes.

The people's party has accomplished in one short campaign what the republicans have been unable to bring about in twenty-five years of strenuous effort. The negroes in Alabama voted their full strength, dividing their vote between the democratic and people's party, giving most of them to the democrats. The democratic party made frantic appeals to the negroes to vote their ticket, assuring them of democratic love, respect and fair treatment.

This practically eliminates from the campaign the issue so confidently relied upon as a potential factor by the bourbon leaders in the southern states. The force bill issue is dead. While the national leaders of the democracy are pushing the force bill issue to the front the bourgeois of Alabama are soliciting the votes of the negroes and duplicating such votes in the count. Deserted by a large majority of its white voters, the democratic party in Alabama falls back upon the negro vote for a little longer lease of life. Instructed from headquarters to talk force bill and yell negro supremacy, they attest their own hollow insincerity by voting the negroes in full force.

So astonishing and complete has been this political metamorphosis that the democratic party in Alabama is to-day essentially a party of negroes, controlled by a few old line democratic politicians. The rank and file of the voters of the state, except the few who are republicans, are now enrolled in the people's party, which has an overwhelming majority of the white votes of the state.

"When Greek meets Greek, then comes the tug of war." So long as the bourbon machine had only a handful of white republicans and a horde of ignorant, cowed and intimidated negroes to deal with, it was an easy matter to show, as was done in 1890, a total vote of only 183,841 with a democratic plurality of 97,000 in a state which has a voting population of 300,000, at least 125,000 of whom are negroes. But when it comes to counting out or intimidating almost the whole of the rank and file of the heretofore democratic vote, who do not fear the scarecrow force bill and who understand the hollow hypocrisy of the yell of 'negro supremacy,' we find the bosses frantically appealing to the negroes to save the party from annihilation and not only counting negro votes, but counting more of them than there are negroes to cast them.

When the smoke of the battle shall have lifted, it will be found that the people's party has carried the state of Alabama and has accomplished that which the republican party has professed an earnest desire to have done. It has broken the phalanx of the solid democratic south and has not only caused the negro vote to be cast and counted, but by dividing such vote has destroyed the menace of 'negro supremacy.' This should give republican journals cause for jubilation. Strangely enough, however, the partisan republican press prefers to belittle and minimize the movement and success of the people's party in the southern states, for fear of stimulating to renewed hope and exertion the populists in the tottering republican states of the northwest. Thus does partisanship smother the public conscience and sacrifice principle for party advantage.—George C. Ward, in Kansas City (Mo.) Mail.

SPOOKS AND PHANTOMS.

The Cries of "Negro Supremacy" and "Force Bill" Have Lost Their Power to Scare People.

The party of the bloody shirt has fanned the embers of hate between north and south for thirty years, but the last spark was stamped out, so far as the people and politicians are concerned, at St. Louis and Omaha.

The party that pretends to maintain the Jeffersonian theory of government clings frantically to its hold upon the south and shrieks out warnings that the force bill spook will catch them if they depart from it. This, too, will avail nothing. The people's party proclamation put out in Amelia county, Va., answers this yell of the democracy well when it says:

"Let us not be troubled more by the threats of 'force bills' and 'negro supremacy.' Let us only remember now here in Virginia we have a 'force bill,' to enable midnight fraud to be successfully practiced in the Anderson-McCormick election law, worse than the threatened one; and let us always bear in mind that the cries of 'splitting the party,' 'negro supremacy,' and 'force bills,' are goblins got up as scarecrows to scare the ignorant southerner, and keep the people divided over a phantom."

"Keep the people divided over a phantom." That has been the aim of both parties these many years, and in their success has been the people's undoing. Divided and conquered. What they have succeeded in doing all these years they will move heaven and earth to do once again, and in this campaign.

Let us dedicate ourselves to the work of thwarting them. Let us, for once, be as wise as our enemies, as far-seeing as resolute, as devoted to the maintenance of our rights as they are to their destruction. Let the people unite, and let them refuse to be divided upon any issue by their enemies, and this year of grace will witness the salvation of our republic, its restoration to the principles upon which it was founded.—Vanguard.

Class Meeting Needed.

In view of the fact that the tariff as an issue has been badly mangled recently, and the force bill bugaboo has been relegated to the rear, what is the matter with the two g. o. p.'s having a class meeting in each county and tell about each other's sins? It would keep them busy during the entire campaign.—National Watchman.

—Silver and populists walk hand in hand in Colorado. They will give brave, generous, noble Gen. Weaver 10,000 majority this fall. Hurrah for the Silver State, and down with the traitors who plavily "holer" for the old parties.—Denver (Col.) Road.



THE FORKS OF THE ROAD.

At last alliance men have arrived at the point at which they must choose between their principles and their party ties. There is no alternative, because both the old parties are bitterly opposed to alliance principles. The city toller is confronted with the alternative of a fight for supremacy at the polls or a tightening of the chains which bind him—Choose ye this day between liberty and serfdom.—GEORGE C. WARD.

that would strike a popular chord in the hearts of most parents at this time.—National Economist.

—The Missouri Republic says the people's party platform is one of the strongest ever handed down to a people, better in many respects than either the democratic or republican platforms, and equal to them in every respect.—Independent Watchman.

—Protectionist Carnegie has received from congress everything he asked for in way of protective tariff laws. The protection he tenders his workmen is from the guns of hired thugs. Hiring private armies to rob according to law is justified. What of the laborer who defends life and property?—Great West.

—Straws show which way the wind blows, so do the members of a party indicate in whose interests the party is run. Railroads, banks, money lenders, boards of trade gamblers, monopolists and speculators are fighting the people's party. This ought to be sufficient evidence for all others.—Kansas Commonwealth.

—"Haven't I a right to do as I please with my capital," says the dude plutocrat. Certainly, so long as you do not infringe on the rights of others, to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. But you have no more right to use your capital to oppress your fellow men than you have to use your revolver to take their lives.—Denver Road.

—Really, friends, it is a serious matter how you cast your vote this year. It matters not how you may have voted in the past. How are you going to vote this fall? That's the question. Will you let prejudice lead you any longer? Will you not exercise your reason? Do you not realize something is wrong? Do a little thinking for yourself, and let your old party go to—Halifax.—New Forum.

—Whatever you do, don't bet on election. If you bet even a small amount you'll be disfranchised. A plot has been discovered, by which the old parties are to furnish money to members of their own party, each of whom if possible is to get the bets out of about twenty people's party men in their precinct on election day and then challenge them. Don't be caught.—Cincinnati Herald.

—A friend writes us from the state of Washington—and by the way he is a republican office-holder: "The strength of the people's movement in Washington and Oregon is simply amazing." Don't be discouraged friends, by the lies of the daily newspapers. That is what they exist for. If they didn't lie they couldn't live. The people's party is going to sweep this country and all the liars between here and Hades cannot stop it.—Great West.

ALABAMA.

The Result Shows a Wonderful Revolution in Public Sentiment.

If Jones, straight democratic nominee for governor, has carried Alabama at all it is by a majority of less than 10,000. The figures indicate a tremendous revolution in the political feeling of that state, and an almost phenomenal growth of people's party sentiment. In 1886 Alabama gave about 107,000 democratic majority. In 1888, in the August election for governor, the democratic majority was 111,223, while Cleveland in November following carried the state by 61,123. In 1890 Jones—the present nominee—was elected by 97,000 majority. Now he will retain the gubernatorial chair by a pitiful 10,000, and perhaps less.

Another remarkable fact is, according to the telegrams, that this majority comes from six negro counties, whereas the white counties voted for Kolb, the farmer's alliance candidate. This shows the change in the feeling of the intelligent white vote of the south and one that promises to have remarkable results in November. The state was hardly organized for a campaign. With the three months intervening between now and the presidential election there will be an abundance of time in which to effect an organization and place the state on a basis to give its electoral vote to Weaver and free silver. What has happened in Alabama may be expected to happen in other states of the south. The people will be heard from in November.—Rocky Mountain News.

A Southern Force Bill.

Gor. Buchanan, of Tennessee, in his letter declining a renomination at the hands of the democratic party, after reviewing his connections with the Farmers' Alliance, speaks of "a plan for disruption" inaugurated by a radical faction in the democracy. He says: "They commenced a vindictive warfare upon all who did not yield obedience to their decree. When their forces had been marshaled in battle array an edict of proscription was issued as autocratic as ever came from the czar of Russia. They proposed to challenge the vote of every democrat who belonged to the organization of farmers and laborers and proscribe him from the party. They used this machinery to coerce the people at the primaries by exacting such pledges as could not be taken without a sacrifice of individual rights, and applying ironclad tests never before made in the history of the party."

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